California GARDEN

MAY-JUNE 1998 Volume 89 No. 3 $1.50

HORTICULTURAL CALENDAR

MAY 1-3

SAGE & SONGBIRD FESTIVAL Butterfly Release. Wildlife Seminars, Plant Sale, Private Habitat Garden Tours. Alpine. Call CHIRP at 445-8352. Free Event. Tour $10.

MAY 2

THE ARBORETUM OF L.A. COUNTY Annual Plant Sale Bonanza. 301 North Baldwin Arcadia. Sat. 9AM-7PM. 626/447-8207 $5.

MAY 2-3

SAN DIEGO IMPERIAL COUNTIES IRIS SOCIETY 33rd Annual Spring Show. Casa del Prado, Balboa Pk. Sat.1-5PM; Sun. 11AM-4PM.

VISTA GARDEN CLUB 64th Flower Show & Sale. Brengle Senior Ctr. 1400 Vale Terrace Dr., Vista. Sat.1:30-5PM; Sun. 10AM-4PM.

DESCANSO GARDENS Rose and Iris Festival. 1418 Descanso Dr., La Canada Flintridge. Sat. & Sun. 9AM-4PM. 818/952-4401. Admission.

MAY 3

BALBOA PARK ZORO GARDEN Nature Program. Nancy Varga-Nature Photography. Noon -1PM.

MAY 4

PALOMAR DISTRICT DESIGN FORUM Floral Designs. The Courtyard, 16935 West Bernardo Dr. Designer, Rene'Van Remes. Mon. 12:30-3PM. Call 760/749-1920. $8 at Door.

MAY 5 REPEATED JUNE 2nd.

CALIFORNIA RARE FRUIT GROWERS Subtropical Fruit Garden Guided Tours. Quail Botanical Gardens, 230 Quail Gardens Drive, Encinitas. 10:30-Noon. 760/436-3036. Free.

MAY 9

TEMECULA VALLEY ROSE SOCIETY ARS Rose Show. Temecula Comm. Ctr., 28816 Pujol St. Sat. Noon-4PM. 909/695-1689. $5.

LA JOLLA GARDEN CLUB Annual Spring Plant Market. Home Savings of America Bank, 7777 Girard Ave. Sat. 9AM-2PM. Free.

CALIFORNIA NATIVESCAPES BOTANICAL GARDEN Guided Tour. S.D. Wild Animal Park. Sat. 10AM. 592-9782. Fee.

CUYAMACA COLLEGE ORNAMENTAL HORTICULTURE Professional Information, Plant Sale & Kids Make Gifts for Mom. 900 Rancho San Diego Pkwy, El Cajon. 9AM-2PM. Call 660-4262. Free.

MAY 9-10

SAN DIEGO EPIPHYLLUM SOCIETY 27th Mother's Day Show & Sale. Casa del Prado, Balboa Park. Sun. 11AM-4PM. Free.

DESCANSO GARDENS Geranium Show & Sale. 1418 Descanso Dr., La Canada Flintridge. Sat. & Sun. 9AM-4PM. Fee.

MAY 10

THE ARBORETUM OF L.A. COUNTY Annual Mother's Day Open House, Queen Anne Cottage. 301 North Baldwin Ave., Arcadia. Sun. 9:30AM. 626/447-8207. Admission.

MAY 16

SAN DIEGO CHAPTER OF IKEBANA INTERNATIONAL 30th Anniversary Luncheon & Demonstration. Doubletree Hotel, Mission Valley. Reservation & Information 660-2046.

MAY 16-17

SAN DIEGO GERANIUM SOCIETY 27th Annual Show & Sale. Casa del Prado, Balboa Park. Sat. & Sun. 10AM-5PM. Free.

SEPULVEDA GARDEN CENTER 14th Annual Country Garden Fair. 16633 Magnolia Blvd., Encino. 9AM-5PM. 818/784-5180. $2.

MAY 17

THE HUNTINGTON 24th Annual Plant Sale. 1151 Oxford St., San Marino. Rare & Unusual. 10AM-4PM. At Parking Lot. 818/405-2100. Free

MAY 23

QUAIL BOTANICAL GARDENS 1st Annual Large Spring Plant Sale. 230 Quail Garden Dr., Encinitas. 10AM-4PM. 760/436-4032. $3.

MAY 23-24

BROMELIAD STUDY GROUP OF BALBOA PARK Annual Show & Sale. Casa del Prado, Balboa Park. Sat. & Sun. 10AM-4PM. Free.

MAY 30-31

SOUTHWEST HERMEROCALLIS SOCIETY Show & Plant Sale. Casa del Prado, Balboa Park. Sun. Noon-4PM. Free.

DESCANSO GARDENS Chrysanthemum Sale. 1418 Descanso Dr., La Canada Flintridge. Sat. & Sun. 9AM-4PM. 818/952-4401. Admission

THE HUNTINGTON Orchid Festival. 1151 Oxford St., San Marino. Sat. & Sun. 10:30AM-4:30PM. 626/405-2141. Admission Fee

(continued on page 68)

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Manuscripts are invited. Deadlines are the 20th of January, March, May, July, September, and November. *California Garden* reserves the right to edit any and all submitted material. All manuscripts and illustrations will be handled carefully, but we cannot assume responsibility for their safety. Submissions must be double spaced and/or on a computer disk from IBM or compatible, in WordPerfect 5.1. All opinions expressed are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the editors of *California Garden*. No endorsement of named products is intended, nor is criticism implied of similar products that are not mentioned.

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THE MAGAZINE FOR THE HANDS-ON GARDENER

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FRONT COVER pictures *Rosa multiflora*, which is part of the lineage of many modern hybrids. Artist unknown.

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FLOWER SHOWS: Show chairman contact *California Garden*, 232-5762 if you want the magazine sold at your show.

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JUNE 6-7

SAN DIEGO CACTUS & SUCCULENT SOCIETY Plant Show. Casa del Prado, Balboa Pk. Plant Sale Sat.& Sun. 10AM-5PM; Show Opens Sat. Noon-5PM; Sun. 10AM-5PM. Free.

NATIONAL FUCHSIA SOCIETY Plant Sale. Descanso Gardens, 1418 Descanso Dr., La Canada Flintridge. Sat. & Sun. 9AM-4PM. Fee

INTERNATIONAL HERB ASSOCIATION 7th Annual Orange County Herb Fair. Fullerton Arboretum, 1900 Associated Rd., Fullerton. Sat & Sun. 10AM-4PM. 714/278-3404. $5.

QUAIL BOTANICAL GARDENS Herb Festival. 230 Quail Garden Dr. Sat. & Sun.10AM-4PM. 760/436-4032. Admission.

JUNE 7

BALBOA PARK ZORO GARDEN Nature Program. Mammal Tracking/Nature Awareness. Noon-1:00PM Free

BALBOA PARK ZORO GARDEN Evening Nature Program. Lori Hynes, Hug-a-Tree and Survive, teaching children how not to get lost and how to get themselves found if they are. 7:30PM-8:30PM. Information 235-1121. Free

JUNE 12-14

DESCANSO BONSAI SOCIETY Show & Sale. Descanso Gardens, 1418 Descanso Dr., La Canada Flintridge. Fri, Sat, & Sun. 9AM-4PM. 818/952-4401. Admission.

JUNE 13 REPEATED JULY 18th & AUG. 19th.

NEW LEAF NURSERY Lecture Series. Regal & Angel Geraniums, etc. 2456 Foothill Dr., Vista. Saturdays 9:30AM. 760/726-9269. Free.

JUNE 16

★SAN DIEGO FLORAL ASSOCIATION Quarterly Dinner/Program. Casa del Prado, Balboa Park. Patrick Abbot, SDSU Professor. "The Geology Park & Mediterranean Garden at SDSU". Tues. Social 5:45PM. Prepaid Resv. $5.

JUNE 16 THRU JULY 5TH

1998 DEL MAR FAIR Flower & Garden Show "California Garden". Via de la Valle west to Fairgrounds. 793-5555. Parking/Entr. Fees.

JUNE 20

AMERICAN FUCHSIA SOCIETY AND AMERICAN BEGONIA SOCIETY Tour Pres. P. Hantgin's Garden. 94 North Santa Rosa St., Ventura. Noon-4PM. 805/648-15300. Free.

JUNE 20-21

CALIFORNIA CHAPTER OF AMERICAN GOURD SOCIETY Show, Sale & Seminars. Welburn Gourd Farm, 40787 De Luz Murrieta Rd., Fallbrook. Sat. & Sun. 9AM-Dusk. 760/728-0269. Free. $2 Park Car.

SAN DIEGO FUCHSIA & SHADE PLANT SOCIETY Show & Sale. Casa del Prado, Balboa Park. Sat. 10AM-5PM; Sun. 10AM-4PM.

JUNE 27-28

HON NON BO ASSOCIATION Show & Sale. Casa del Prado, Balboa Park. Sat & Sun. 10AM-5PM. Free.

SATURDAYS MAY 2nd & 9th - JUNE 6th & 13th THE HUNTINGTON NEW! Kids' Nature Crafts. 1151 Oxford St., San Marino. 1-3PM. 626/405-2272. Admission Under 12 Free.

ONGOING EVENTS

QUAIL BOTANICAL GARDENS 230 Quail Garden Dr., Encinitas. 9AM-5PM. 760/436-4032.

BLUE SKY ECOLOGICAL RESERVE Walks. Poway. Sat & Sun 9AM. 486-7238.

RANCHO SANTA ANA BOTANIC GARDEN AT CLAREMONT Annual Wildflower Show thru May 17th. Sat. & Sun. 2PM. 909/625-8767. Donation.

BALBOA PARK: ONGOING PROGRAMS

DAILY- SAN DIEGO JAPANESE FRIENDSHIP GARDEN (north of Organ Pavilion) Docent Tours, Tues., Fri., Sat., Sun. Open 10:00AM-4:00PM. 232-2780. Fee.

SAT. OFFSHOOT TOURS 1 Hour. Meet Botanical Lath House. 10AM. 235-1121. Free.

WED. INTERPRETIVE WALKS Ranger guided. Meet Visitors Center. Noon. 235-1211. Free.

Deadline for submission to HORTICULTURAL CALENDAR for July/August issue is May 15. SAN DIEGO FLORAL ASSOCIATION ***is not responsible for changes that are submitted late by the organizations. http://www.uniontrib.com***

If you've been trying to reach "TELETIP," home and garden information service recordings provided by UCCE and received only continuous ringing, it is because they've discontinued the service (565-5630).

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BANANAS! — THE EVERYDAY EXOTIC IMPORT

by CAROL FRYE GRAHAM

I NEVER MET A banana split I didn't like or a banana cream pie that didn't call my name. Fortunately, I can indulge my banana passion 365 days a year by visiting any grocery store.

Do you realize how truly fortunate we are concerning the banana? This modestly priced fruit is available fresh every day of the year. How many fruits can make that claim?

The banana is also incredibly good for you. This highly nutritious fruit contains plenty of protein, vitamins A, B, and C, and minerals including iron, magnesium, phosphorus, and potassium. Mashed banana is often an infant's first solid food, and throughout life, the banana remains one of the most easily digested natural foods. The banana often is recommended as a source of potassium for people using diuretic and hypertension-relieving medications that tend to drain potassium from the body. Bananas are a staple food in most tropical countries. To cite author Glenn Tankard (*Tropical Fruit — An Australian Guide to Growing and Using Exotic Fruits*) "bananas . . . are one of the most important economic food producing plants in the world."

So, "How could this fruit get any better?" you ask. Well, how about being able to grow this healthy treat in your garden? See, I didn't forget that this is a garden magazine. And guess what! You can grow bananas in your own frost-free backyard. Yes, you read correctly. If you live in a frost-free area, growing bananas is fun, easy, and productive. That is pretty remarkable since the banana originated in Southeast Asia, about as far away from California as you can get and still claim a home address on planet earth.

If you would like more information on growing bananas, I have three suggestions:

FIRST, you might enjoy rereading "Bananas," a mini-article that appeared in the September-October 1994 edition (page 133) of this prestigious magazine.

SECOND, send a stamped, self-addressed envelope to: UCCE Master Gardeners
5555 Overland Avenue, Building 4
San Diego CA 92123
requesting the California Rare Fruit Growers' "Fruit Facts on Banana." This helpful single page leaflet will answer most of your how-to questions concerning growing bananas. If you are computer literate, you can save your stamps and log onto http://www.crfg.org.

THIRD, attend a **FREE** guided tour through the *Subtropical Fruit Garden* at QUAIL BOTANICAL GARDENS in Encinitas. This tour will feature, you guessed it, bananas! Twelve different varieties were recently planted in the SUBTROPICAL FRUIT GARDEN. The tour will be offered **FREE** on May 5th (first Tuesday of the month) and again on June 2nd (first Tuesday of the month) starting at 10:30AM on both days, weather permitting.

Started by volunteers in 1973, this fruit garden is graced with several mature specimens. In 1997, the garden was enhanced with a generous donation of both labor and trees from the California Rare Fruit Growers (an amateur fruit-growing nonprofit educational society). With the addition of several interpretive signs, the garden celebrated a grand reopening in August 1997. The California Rare Fruit Growers' "Fruit Facts on Banana" will be available on the tour, also. Hope to see you at the SUBTROPICAL FRUIT GARDEN. □

Carol Frye Graham is a UCCE Master Gardener and member of California Rare Fruit Growers.

CANNAS

by SUZANNE M. MACK

EVERY OLD FASHIONED cottage garden used to sport a clump of tall red or yellow cannas in the summer. They always reminded me of my grandmother's garden. Somewhere along the line we left the canna in grandma's garden and went on to other plantings. I'm happy to say, "they're back"!

Owing to recent work in hybridizing there are now hundreds of varieties from which to choose. What used to be a staple in your grandmother's flower garden now has a whole new look. Cannas can be found in many colors and varying heights to suit any gardener's needs. They are a good choice to add drama, texture and color to your garden. The new cannas are true show stoppers. There are five foot tall varieties such as 'King Midas' with it's three-inch bright yellow blooms. The equally tall 'Rosemond Coles'is yellow with a striking orange border. 'Tropical Rose' grows 24 inches tall and is a deep pink. Some varieties come with spots and streaks of contrasting color and others are white, ivory, peach, and coral. Some varieties can be grown from seed and will bloom the first year.

Cannas love heat and can be grown in plantings with other heat lovers for a colorful summer garden. Try them with salvia, penstemon, cosmos, verbena, vinca, iris, sedum, and gazania for a Gertrude Jekyll-style border.

Early Cannas

All America Selections winner in 1992, *Canna* 'Tropical Rose', drawing courtesy of All America Selections

Planting them in giant pots is another idea for patios and around pools. Wherever you use them they add a tropical feeling to the setting. Cannas are prized for their dramatic green or bronze leaves, which are used in floral arrangements. The blooms however do not make great cut flowers.

Cannas like full sun and soil that drains well. In zones 8 through 11, they can be left in the soil after they are cut to the ground in February. In colder climates they are lifted and stored until danger of frost has passed. Cannas also require ample amounts of water when in bloom. As the blooms fade they should be deadheaded to encourage more blooms. Cannas will continue to produce flowers into early Autumn. Snails and slugs like them and white fly is attracted to the underside of the large leathery leaves.

While we wait for dry out from El Niño we can thumb through garden catalogs in search of the perfect canna for the summer garden. Park Seed catalog has a few and Walter Andersen Nursery in San Diego carries over twenty varieties of the tubers in stock. □

Suzanne M. Mack graduated from the Master Gardener Program in 1996. A long-time resident of the San Diego area, she grows flowers and vegetables at her home in the Del Cerro/San Carlos region.

GROWING PUMPKINS IN A SMALL SPACE

Illustration of *Cucurbita pepo* 'Baby Bear', from All-America Selections (a winner in 1993), 1½-2 lbs.

Some information gleaned from *The Perfect Pumpkin*:

[There are four species of the genus *Curcurbita* that are considered to be pumpkins, see those below.]

Heat Tolerance by Species

argyrosperma [formerly *mixta*]	loves heat
maxima	tolerates low temperatures
moschata	loves heat
pepo	requires the least heat

You can control the spreading growth habit of pumpkin vines in six ways:

1. Use the space-saving trick Pilgrims learned from the Native Americans — grow pumpkins among rows of corn. This option is described more fully beginning on page 55 [of the book credited below].
2. Plant vines at the edge or the uphill end of your garden, to give runners more room to roam.
3. Trellis varieties with small- to mid-sized fruit. Miniature pumpkins take well to trellising. Larger fruits must be hung in slings fashioned from stretchy hosiery, so they won't break off the vine. Large jack-o'-lantern pumpkins and giant pumpkins, of course, are too heavy for trellising.

   Trellising has several advantages besides saving space. Fruits grown off the ground have a more uniform color, are less likely to rot due to contact with damp ground. Vines have less exposure to soilborne diseases and are less likely to get stepped on. (However, since a trellised vine has less contact with soil, it can't put down the extra roots that would help it resist vine borer.)
4. Plant a compact variety; these require as little as one-third the space of a vining type. Compact varieties are often called bush or semi-bush, even though they don't really bush in the same way that a zucchini plant does. You'll get fewer pumpkins from a compact vine, but they will be the same size as the fruits of similar varieties with spreading growth habits. Compact vines have shorter runners and smaller leaves than standard varieties. They also have fewer leaves to photosynthesize food, so they require especially fertile soil.
5. When vines begin to sprawl, you can control their spread by *gently* turning back the tips. But take care — the hollow vines kink easily, and when that happens the stem stops transporting moisture and nutrients from the roots to the leaves and fruits. Runners are easiest to move without damage after they have been warmed several hours by the sun.
6. Pinch back longer (6—8 foot, or 180—240 cm) runners after fruits begin to grow. One year our vigorous Winter Luxury Vine stretched its runners toward out electric fence. To keep the fence from shorting out (thus delighting rabbits, deer, and groundhogs), we frequently mowed the fence line clear. Our efforts seemed not to adversely affect the harvest, for that year we had more pumpkins than ever.

Excerpted from *The Perfect Pumpkin*, ©1997 by Gail Damerow. Reprinted with permission of Storey Books, Schoolhouse Road, Pownal VT 05261 (800/441-5700 or www.storey.com — softcover, $12.95 US). □

THE "EVERLASTING" STORY

by Catherine L. Zinsky

NOTHING CAN EVER SURPASS the natural beauty of fresh-cut flowers, but in their absence dried flowers place a close second. Now is the time to plan and plant such everlastings as strawflowers (*Helichrysum*), statice (*Limonium*), *Celosia*, yarrows (*Achillea*) . . . the list is lengthy, which is why planning is important.

Technically an everlasting is any of the various plants whose blossoms keep their color and shape when dried. Hence the bells of Ireland (*Moluccella laevis*) are not considered an everlasting because they do not maintain their unique green color when dried; rather, they turn a light brown. They do, however, retain their shape, which makes them superb candidates for drying and using in dried arrangements. Those plants—and seed pods—that can be dried far exceed the number of everlastings available to gardeners. The distinction is important, but not critical. Both make excellent material for arranging.

Papaver somniferum

The most conventional and easiest way to dry flowers is to hang them upside down in a dry, sheltered area. This process works well for almost every sturdy-stemmed plant that you might want to dry. Simply cluster a small number of stems together, wrap the end of the stems securely with a rubber band, then hang the bouquet from a hook, drying rack, whatever you have that will allow air to circulate and the bouquet to hang straight and free. I prefer the rubber band to string because as the flowers dry, they shrink. The rubber band contracts naturally with this shrinkage, whereas string does not and the flowers can loosen and drop as they dry.

Weather conditions, the size of the flower grouping, and the size of the flowers and stems themselves will all contribute to the amount of time required for the flowers to dry completely. Once dry, they can be taken down and used at will.

One of my favorite everlastings is annual statice (*Limonium sinuatum*), simply because it is so easy to grow, comes in numerous shades from pastels to deep blues, and fades very little when dried. It's also easy to dry as it's so papery to begin with. This also can be said of strawflowers and *Helipterums*. What's important to remember when cutting these flowers for drying is to get them just after they've opened. If you cut them as buds they won't open, yet if you wait too long they'll go to seed as they're drying, which believe me, makes a real mess.

Most gardeners are unaware of just how much material they have in their gardens that can be dried. The bird of paradise (*Strelitzia*), which is fairly common in Southern California, is a fine example. The birds themselves can be dried, but in my estimation even better are their leaves! The leaves dry in all sorts of contorted, twisted fashion, and therefore make for fascinating rhythms in arrangements. Bear's breech (*Acanthus mollis*) is another superb choice for drying. Their erect, flowering spikes become a soft tan after drying. Because of their stem girth, I dry these individually.

Seed pods are yet another source of drying material. In fact, some plants are grown especially for their seed pods, such as *Scabiosa stellata* and a variety of poppies, particularly *Papaver somniferum*. A point to remember when drying seed heads is to put them in a paper bag, then hang them upside down—bag and all—as previously described. This allows you to catch and collect the seeds in the bag for replanting the following year.

The following is a brief list of other flowers I have dried successfully:

Ammobium
Centaurea cyanus (bachelor's button)
Daucus carota carota (Queen Ann's lace)
Consolida ambigua (larkspur)

(continued on page 86)

PROPAGATION BY CUTTINGS

by Robert Horwitz

PROPAGATION OF YOUR FAVORITE plant can be done easily if you are willing to follow some simple procedures and have a modicum of patience. The advantage of propagation by cuttings is that it insures that the offspring plant will have the same characteristics as the parent. When you propagate a plant by using seeds, you run the risk of genetic variations inherent in the sexual process. Generally, the plant can be characterized by having either a soft or hard stem. The soft stem plants are for the most part annuals, whereas, the hard stemmed ones belong to perennials.

Spring, when the new shoots of soft stem plants are coming up, is the time to select your candidates for cutting and treating so that they will grow into a plant on their own. Select vigorous growing stems and cut them from the parent plant just below a leaf node. Try to select a stem that will have several nodes along its length. The cut should take place in stems that could have been snapped off rather than cut. This is the proper maturity for optimum rooting. A stem that is too soft may rot, and a stem that is too hard may not have the vigor to root.

Procure a packet of rooting hormones from your nursery. This is a white power that really helps the stem to get out those new roots early. Remove the leaves from two or three nodes, dip the stem into the powder up past the top bare node, shake off the excess powder and place into its rooting medium. The rooting medium consists of half clean sand and half peat moss. You can use fine perlite or other fine inert material instead of sand. Poke a hole into the medium and insert the stems past the top node.

Keep in a warm place out of the sun and keep the rooting medium moist, not soaking, until new shoots appear and a healthy root system has been established. Then, the plant can be transplanted into its permanent home, Use several cuttings from the same plant to preclude failure. If the cuttings are stored in an area where it may be too dry, you could cover the whole plant with a clear plastic hood to conserve respirated moisture.

Hardwood cuttings should be taken in the fall when the plant starts to go dormant. Gather up a small bundle of cuttings from the plant, all about six inches long, each with several nodes. Sparingly cover each cutting with a thin powdery covering of rooting hormone powder. Tie them together and cover with potting soil as previously described. Keep them in a warm place. It probably will take over a month and as much as three months to get roots to form depending on the type of plant. After roots have started to form, separate the cuttings and pot them individually until they have grown enough to put into their permanent home.

There is another quite successful method of propagation that is called layering. In essence, you select a branch of the plant you wish to propagate, bury a part of that branch or stem in a satellite pot making sure that several nodes have been covered with rooting hormones and covered with the potting medium. This method uses some of the strength of the parent plant to grow a new one. You can see this process in nature by looking at how ivy and creeping grasses propagate themselves along the ground.

Only a few plants can successfully be propagated by a method called leaf layering, where a spine of the leaf is cut and placed in intimate contact with some soil or potting mixture. Rotting is the biggest enemy of propagation by this method. African violets can be grown this way if you can control the leaf rot. □

Robert Horwitz is a retired space engineer who gardens in Point Loma.

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HYBRID SHRUB ROSE (KORDES 1954), HIPS LARGE, TURBINATE (SHAPED LIKE A TOP), ORANGE RED.

ROSA MOYESII, NATIVE TO CHINA, BRANCHES BROWN RED, PAIRED YELLOWISH PRICKLES, 7-13 LEAFLETS, ELLIPTIC TO OVATE; HIPS FLASK-SHAPED, DARK ORANGE-RED.

THERE ARE OVER ONE HUNDRED different wild roses, species roses, in the Northern Hemisphere. Species roses come true from seed. That is, the seeds that mature in the hips will germinate and grow to become the same kind of rose if not cross pollinated. In the last one hundred years, hybridizers have been dabbing pollen from hybrids (even hybrid tea roses) on the pistils of wild roses. Recently, the goal has been to create shrub roses with more relaxed flowers.

We show here the fruit, or hips, of six different roses — four of them species. Sometimes you can guess the genetic background of a rose by looking at the hips. 'Lace Cascade', for instance, a seven by seven foot white shrub rose from Jackson & Perkins, shows distinct damask rose background. The hips are longer and narrower than most hybrid tea roses and flask-like at the bottom.

The flowers of most roses (whether wild or hybridized) are so charming, it can be hard to focus on other parts. Nevertheless, I adore the rough-to-touch, heavily-veined, gray-green leaves of damask roses. See those this spring on pale-pink *Rosa damascena bifera* in the front right section of the Thomas Whaley Rose Garden at Harney Street and San Diego Avenue in Old Town San Diego. Also catching the eye are the very dark green, mint-like leaves (again deeply furrowed by veins) of *Rosa rugosa* hybrids like 'Blanc Double de Coubert', a double white.

Rose Hips Vary!

by Betty Newton

But there are times when rose fruit or hips call to you. You may want to be further sensitized. The varying shapes of rose fruits are part of the charm of roses.

You can see the seven and eight foot arching branches of a rose like *Rosa moyesii*, carrying their fat, top-shaped, red-orange hips at the Wild Animal Park. A large bush is on your left just above the Kilimanjaro Trail walking south — after the suspension bridge. We know it is not *R. moyesii* because that has skinny hips. For those used to the rounder hips of hybrid teas, the unusual hips stand out. (Most species roses don't get the hips cut off to encourage more flowers.

Edward Bunyard in his 1936 book *Old Garden Roses* helps identify old cabbage roses, *R. centifolia*, writing that "the hip is large and oval, not so round as in Gallicas," (another species long grown in gardens).

The hip is the maturing *hypanthium* where the pollinized blossom swells. The shape of the hypanthium changes after fertilization and the sepals, those five narrow, leaf-like, green growths immediately below a blossom, become the top as petals drop off. Look over these rose hip sketches. Then notice them — or that species influence — in gardens. □

Betty Newton teaches gardening classes for Grossmont Adult School and writes for the Sunday San Diego Union-Tribune.

ROSA RUGOSA, NATIVE TO CHINA AND JAPAN. TO 6 FEET, DENSELY PRICKLY AND BRISTLY, 5-9 LEAFLETS, HIPS, 1-INCH, RED WITH ERECT SEPALS.

ROSA SPINOSISSIMA (ROSA PIMPINELLIFOLIA), SCOTCH OR BURNET ROSE, LOW, TO 3 FEET; ERECT, PRICKLES AND BRISTLES, UP TO 13 SERRATE LEAFLETS, HIPS, ROUNDISH, PUPLISH-BLACK.

(right) HYBRID MUSK, NATIVE TO SOUTHERN EUROPE, AND NORTH AFRICA TO ASIA. ARCHING, OVERHANGING, 5-7 LEAFLETS; HIPS, SMALL AND OVOID.

BY VIRGINIA BOOS

TEMECULA'S TREASURES

GARDENERS, AND ESPECIALLY ROSE gardeners, will be interested in viewing the display this spring of seven hundred floribunda roses filling the median strips of Rancho California Road in Temecula as it crosses Interstate 15. As Temecula was aiming toward its incorporation as a city in 1989, local real estate developer, Bill Johnson (whose office was at the corner of Ynez and Rancho California Roads), noticed that nothing was being done to landscape the six median strips resulting from the widening of Rancho California to six lanes. Weeds and dirt there made a poor impression on visitors to the local wineries, so he approached the brand new Temecula Rose Society for help and suggestions.

Johnson, himself an avid rose lover, hoped that an appropriate "statement" could be made with mass plantings of roses. The Society's letter to the City Council brought positive results.

The developer paid about half the cost and the City took care of installing the necessary water system. On the ceremonial planting day, many Society members participated with Council members in helping City workers. The care of the plants is contracted for and financed by the City. Five beds, two of coral pink 'Pleasure' and one each red 'Europeana', 'Trumpeter', yellow 'Sunsprite' and 'Goldilocks' are a sight to behold. They create a breathtaking entrance to our city.

While Temecula does have hot summers, the bloom in April, May, and June, as well as again in October and November is lavish. Of course, watering vigilance is necessary.

The Temecula Valley Rose Society has also developed a *public rose garden*, called "Rose Haven." The garden of one thousand bushes, showing off eighty varieties, was planted seven years ago on donated private land at the corner of Jedediah Smith Road and Cabrillo Avenue, about a mile from the intersection of Highway 79 and Interstate 15. The garden is maintained with an "Adopt-A-Rose" group activity through which members take responsibility for one bed of ten roses or more for a year.

Horseback riders in this area of rolling hills were fond of riding into the garden to smell the roses, so a fence matching the entry arbor was recently added.

The garden can't be beat as a source of community beauty and as a classroom for teaching rose culture. Pruning classes are held there for the public each year in January and February. Blooms are picked by a club sub-group, "The Blooming Angels," for the bouquets they take regularly to shut-ins or anyone who could enjoy a special treat. Also, the different rose varieties can be examined for growing characteristics before deciding on a purchase.

Club member Rebecca Weersing is working with another sub-group, a Junior Rose Society for children sixteen and under. They meet at the library to learn care of roses and read about varieties and do rose-related crafts. The group started from a nucleus of young people making entries in the Society's annual rose show.

Temecula's Treasures, an American Rose Society adjudicated rose show is held each spring in Temecula. The date this year is Saturday, May 9th. Exhibitors' entries are received from 7:30AM to 10:00AM, and the show is open to the public from 12 noon to 4:00PM. A donation of $5.00 is asked, which includes homemade cookies and beverages. The show will be at the Temecula Community Center, 28816 Pujol Street, west of Old Town.

The Temecula Valley Rose Society meets monthly on the third Thursday at 10:30AM in the Temecula Library. It currently has about eighty members.

Come to Temecula and see the roses!□

[MAPS ON PAGE 87]

Virginia Boos is retired and very active in the Temecula Valley Rose Society (formed in 1990) and the Rose Haven garden. She and her husband live on five acres and have four hundred rose bushes there.

BY PHIL ASH

PLEASE HELP ME! ON MY ROSES, I HAVE:

1. **Bugs crawling:**
   - a. **On the buds and new growth:** transparent, green, pink, dark are probably aphids. Pinch off, soap off, use systemic.
   - b. **Little and black and inside the blooms:** Thrips. Quart spray bottle with Orthene, on buds weekly from bud formation on. Systemic maybe.
   - c. **Little green worms making holes in leaves, chewing buds.** Pick off. hose off, soap off, use any spray with *Bacillus thuringensis* (BT) in it.

2. **On my rose, the leaves:**
   - a. **Have white, powdery stuff on top:** Powdery mildew. Prevent. Water in morning, wash leaves, overhead sprinkle. Organic. Funginex.
   - b. **Have white stuff on the bottom:** Giant whitefly? But probably downy mildew. Pull all infected leaves, cut back infected canes, apply heat (sun and water), think positively, get rid of all infected plant materials.
   - c. **Are yellowing and falling off:**
     - 1) **From the top down:** Are the leaves and canes below mottled purple and green? Do yellow leaves fall off readily, leaving stipule and petiole standing empty? Possibly downy mildew, see 2b above.
     - 2) **From the bottom up:** Look at underside of leaf with magnifying glass. See salt and pepper like residues and/or ugly brown spider-like bug, it's spider mites. High pressure water washing of undersides of leaves. Remove foliage up to 12″ from ground. Spray Green Leaf Red Spider Mite Mix or Avid, at 3-4 day intervals to get new hatch.
     - 3) **Yellowing here and there in plant:** Probably normal. Some varieties do a lot of yellowing between bloom cycles.
   - d. **Have small round holes in them:** Some bug having lunch, probably little green worms or earwigs.
   - e. **Look lacy-like, can see through them:** Bugs, probably leaf hoppers of or little green worms or even earwigs, rose midge one of these days.
   - f. **Have big regular circular chunks taken out of the edges:** Cutter bees at work. Try to see one doing the cutting, it'll keep you busy and out of trouble.
   - g. **Have big irregular chunks taken out of them:** The grasshoppers (or beetles of some variety) have struck. Hose down garden looking to spot an aroused grasshopper and where it lands. Then use pruning shears on grasshopper!
   - h. **Have irregular purple splotches on them:** Downy mildew a possibility, see 2b above.
   - i. **Have bright orange spots on the undersides of the leaves:** Rust. Remove and destroy all infected leaves. Fungicide of variable effectiveness.
   - j. **Have round black spots on the leaves:** Could be black spot, especially if new bush from out of state. Remove and destroy infected areas. Clean gardening practices. Fungicides.

3. **My rose blooms:**
   - a. **Don't open:** Not enough sun? Too many petals. Lack water, food. Botrytis?
   - b. **Don't open and have grayish-looking stuff all over them:** Probably botrytis. Need good light. Daconil spray.
   - c. **Don't open and are all chewed up on one side:** Get the pruning shears out and after that grasshopper! Or other noxious beetle or worm.

d. Open and the petals have small holes in them: Thrips. Have done their thing and it's too late now, see 1b above.

e. Open and then have some greenish-like stuff growing in the center: Vegetative center. Probably overdose of fertilizer at wrong moment. Some varieties more susceptible than others.

4. Cane or stem is:

a. Coming out at the bottom (bud union), is purplish and huge: Treasure it, pamper it, prepare to enjoy it, the best thing that can happen. Called a basal break, should produce gorgeous blooms. One-half cup Epsom salts per bush 2-3 times a year is supposed to encourage this.

b. Coming out from next to the plant, or from below the bud union, is long and green and has green skinny leaves and has no blooms: Sounds like a sucker from the root stock if is a typical budded rose. Dig down and get close to root or shank and cut it off. Will probably grow back, just whack it off again.

c. Has little clumps of leaves along the stem: Called rosettes. Pop them off with your thumb, cut off if larger. They are wasting plant's time and energy.

d. Has lots of leaves but no bud at the end: Called a blind end or blind shoot. Make believe it has a bloom on the end and cut it where you normally would, and hope new growth starts with terminal bud.

e. Has kind of a whisk broom at the end where the bud ought to be: Also called a "witch's broom." The reverse of blind shoot, but still no terminal bud. Cut as d. above, or pop off all but one whisk and leave that as a terminal bud.

f. My hybrid tea has too many blossoms on one cane: Disbud as the cane forms, leaving the terminal bud but finger popping off all the other side buds on the stem.

g. I want a big spray of roses from my floribunda: As the stem forms, pop off the terminal (top) bud. All the other buds will close in and make a big spray.□

ADAPTED FROM AN ARTICLE COPYRIGHTED BY PHIL ASH, our thanks to him.
Phil Ash is President of the San Diego Rose Society, raises prize-winning roses, and is a Master Gardener. He has eight hundred roses growing in pots on a small city lot with coastal climate in University City.

ROSE SPRAY RECIPES FROM THE KITCHEN CUPBOARD

ORGANIC PREVENTATIVE SPRAY FOR bugs & fungus: Lynn Snetsinger, Pacific Rose Society
"Jeff Stage, San Diego Rose Society, helped me develop this organic spray to repel insects and prevent mildew and rust on my exhibition roses. It is not 100% effective, but comes closer than anything else I've used."

2 Tbs Garlic Barrier, 2 Tbs vinegar, spreader sticker used according to label, mixed with 1 gallon of water and sprayed faithfully every week.

ORGANIC MILDEW SPRAY: Lynn Snetsinger, Pacific Rose Society
"I use this spray formula, given to me by Carl Mahanay, San Diego Rose Society, only when I actually see mildew on a plant. it must be sprayed at a time when there is no chance that it can burn your leaves (early morning or late afternoon). **MIX, DO NOT SHAKE IT, OR IT WILL EXPLODE!** Use it on affected plants and those immediately surrounding it daily until mildew disappears."

1 Tbs baking soda, 1 Tbs white vinegar, 2½ Tbs corn oil, 1½ Tbs Safer soap (or spreader sticker used per label directions) in one gallon of water.

FOR MILDEW, GREAT SHAKES HOT STUFF; Brian Donn, San Diego Rose Society, adapted from a recipe from Mary Muehler, San Diego Rose Society

For a one-gallon mixture — dissolve one envelope Knox gelatin in one cup boiling water, add 1 heaping tsp of powdered garlic, 2 tsp baking soda, 2 Tbs vegetable oil, 1½ Tbs liquid hand soap (not dish detergent), 6 shakes Tabasco Sauce. Steep, stir, let sit 5—10 minutes, strain into sprayer. **MIX, DO NOT SHAKE IT, OR IT WILL EXPLODE.** Brian puts about a pint of warm water into his spray tank, adds the above ingredients, and then fills the tank to the desired level, adding water if necessary, and stirs well.

FLORAL COMPETITION AT THE "DISCOVER CALIFORNIA!" DEL MAR FAIR June 16 - July 5

by MARIANNE TRUBY

Mission Statement of the 22nd District Agricultural Association Del Mar is:

To manage and promote a world class, multi-use, public assembly facility with an emphasis on agriculture, education, entertainment, and recreation in a fiscally sound and environmentally conscientious manner for the benefit of all.

WITH THE MANY ASPECTS of ways to accomplish these goals you have probably missed some outstanding additions and improvements that have occurred during the tenure of Flower and Garden Show Superintendent, Edgar Engert.

This will be the fourth year for this Professional Floral Competition originated by Edgar in 1995. Mark your calendar for June 21st, 1998 to watch the competition.

This "top ten" format is limited to twenty-five entrants. Prior to the competition the designer enters into an agreement to abide by the defined rules and procedures. Previous first place winners of the Del Mar Floral Competitions or Cal State Top Ten Competitions are not eligible to enter this year's competition.

All arrangements become property of the 1998 Del Mar Fair Flower and Garden Show and will be on display.

ARRANGEMENTS MUST BE DESIGNED SO THEY REMAIN FRESH!

No. 1 DESIGNER'S CHOICE. The contestants create arrangements from materials that they have brought with them. Before beginning, these materials will be inspected by pre-qualifying judges who check for compliance with the rules that they agree to beforehand.

The competition is carefully timed, and the crowd is fascinated to watch how quickly these professionals work. The Designers Choice arrangement must be deliverable by the designer, and to demonstrate this, he or she will gingerly carry it when finished to a display area. Spectators hold their breath as dangling flowers and vegetables (or even goldfish) pass by. Then, the public is invited to study the arrangements and vote for the People's Choice Award.

The arrangements are then judged (using a point system!). The judges have not been watching the competition. The top ten finishers will advance to the 2nd part of the competition, the "SURPRISE PACKAGE."

No. 2 THE SURPRISE PACKAGE: These top ten finalists are given just a few minutes to study the flowers and props provided them, and then are to create first one and then another arrangement, according to the themes specified. (The Surprise Package is changed each year). Winners are chosen based on total points scored. PRIZE MONEY 1st, $750; 2nd, $400 and 3rd $200.

The three winners then become eligible to participate in the California State Floral Association's annual top ten competition held in the late summer or fall. Formerly (and this is preferred), the only way to be allowed to compete in the CFSA's competition, was to have placed in a sanctioned qualifying competition, such as Del Mar is. The Del Mar Fair staff is advised by a committee of volunteers who include some of San Diego County's most active and established florists and past winners of many competitions in their own right. A full brochure listing the contestants, their qualifications and Qualifying Judges will be available at the presentations.

This special event takes place in the area adjacent to the Information Station. For those of us who have noticed less and less participation in arrangements sections of our local shows where much emphasis seems placed on unusual containers and dried materials, you will find this demonstration a wonderful and inspiring experience. You will view your garden flowers and shrubs with renewed interest. □

Marianne Truby has lived and gardened at her home in Chula Vista since 1955.

Now is the Time . . .

A CULTURAL CALENDAR OF CARE FROM OUR AFFILIATES, UC COOPERATIVE EXTENSION, AND *CALIFORNIA GARDEN* STAFF

AFRICAN VIOLETS
Helen La Gamma

NOW IS THE TIME

TO WATER only when soil is dry.

TO REPOT only if necessary.

TO TAKE the time to groom your violets by removing the lower row of leaves and all flower stems.

TO SEE that you have proper soil: light, porous and with good drainage.

TO PUT all plants on wicks using a 3½ to 4 cup reservoir.

TO HAVE 12 to 14 hours of light daily.

TO HAVE proper spacing—provide room for good air circulation.

TO USE good fertilizer according to the instruction at each watering.

BEGONIAS
Margaret Lee

NOW IS THE TIME

TO WATCH tuberous begonias for signs of mildew, correct with dust and spray.

TO CHECK cane type begonias and cut back if needed.

TO SPRAY for insects using malathion.

TO FINISH repotting where needed; use a light porous mixture.

TO FEED plants with a well-balanced all-purpose fertilizer.

TO WATER as needed—keep moist but *not wet*.

TO CHECK tuberous type for drainage; repot to larger container if needed, add fresh soil. Stake any tall stems.

BONSAI
San Diego Bonsai Club, Inc.

NOW IS THE TIME

TO DEVELOP a watering schedule, but avoid overwatering, especially the pines.

TO PRUNE all trees to promote growth and shape. Tip prune junipers and pines using finger pruning instead of cutting tools that cause brown tips.

TO SPRAY for insects as needed, using either a systemic or a mild surface insecticide.

TO SHAPE deciduous trees. Defoliate the deciduous trees in June. They may be transplanted afterwards.

TO CONTROL any mildew that may appear; use sulfur or a spray.

TO FERTILIZE trees with an organic fertilizer. Do not overfeed the pines.

TO COMPLETE the repotting of all trees that have not been repotted, except for the flowering trees that have not completed their blooming cycle.

TO PLACE trees to receive optimal sun, but do not place in full sun after 11:00AM to prevent sunburning.

TO ROTATE trees often to maintain proper shape.

BROMELIADS
Mary Siemers

NOW IS THE TIME

TO FERTILIZE the outdoor plants during warm months only. Plants in greenhouse can be fertilized year-round.

TO USE a water-soluble fertilizer—preferably one high in acid, using only ½ the recommended strength on label.

TO CUT new offshoots to make new plants during the summer when weather is warm. Offshoots must be ⅓ to ½ the size of the mother plant.

TO KEEP plants clean at all times by cutting spent blooms and dead leaves—this helps to keep plants healthy.

TO CHECK plants for scale. If needed treat with Cygon 2-E according to directions on the bottle. If scale remains give same treatment in two weeks.

TO GIVE plants plenty of air circulation and provide humidity by watering the ground around plants.

CACTI & SUCCULENTS
Joseph Betzler

NOW IS THE TIME

TO WATER plants, but not too wet. When pots get noticeably light in weight, water them.

TO FERTILIZE for growth and flowering. Allow the winter growers to go dormant and rest before feeding.

TO PROTECT the plants from brilliant sun. Shade cloth can keep plants from being bleached out on very hot days.

TO CHECK any additions to your collection for insect pests. Keep them away from rest of plants. If pests or disease are noticed, treat at once.

TO REPOT those plants needing it; use a well-draining mix, but do not overpot. A good rule of thumb is to allow an inch between plant and the pot.

TO REPOT seedlings when they have doubled or tripled in size. If they have been in the same mix for over six months, it is a good idea to repot.

TO CHECK entire collection for any pests or disease; if so, treat at once to avoid an infestation.

CAMELLIAS

E. C. Snooks

NOW IS THE TIME

TO START a feeding program when they finish blooming. Use an acid-type fertilizer: cottonseed meal, camellia food, or liquid fish.

TO BE SURE to water well the day before feeding, never fertilize a dry plant.

TO TRANSPLANT those plants that have not started their new growth.

TO REPOT those plants that have outgrown their pots. Move to one size larger pot per time.

TO MULCH plants well with redwood compost or pine needles. This helps to keep the soil uniformly moist and the weeds down.

TO PRUNE out unwanted new growth; shape and thin out center.

TO SPRAY for insects as they appear; use Cygon for looper worms and aphids. Use a miticide if mites appear later.

TO ESTABLISH and maintain a uniform watering routine. Plants should never be allowed to go dry.

DAHLIAS

Abe Janzen

NOW IS THE TIME

TO FEED with low nitrogen fertilizer (4-10-10), either dry or liquid.

TO SPRAY weekly to control insects. Guard against leaf miners, thrips, and aphids. Try a systemic; if spraying, use a weak solution on new foliage.

TO WATER when top of soil is dry; when buds are forming, soak deeply and often.

TO PLANT smaller varieties and give regular care for growing.

TO BE SURE to draw the soil up around the plants as they grow.

TO PINCH out centers of plants when two or three sets of leaves have developed.

EPIPHYLLUMS (Orchid Cactus)

Abe Janzen

NOW IS THE TIME

TO PRUNE plants to shape—take cuttings after flowering.

TO PUT out snail bait and watch for other pests.

TO REMOVE wilted flowers by cutting about ¾" out from leaf unless you desire seed to form.

TO TAKE CARE in watering, do *NOT* allow to dry out; keep soil damp, but *NOT* wet.

TO GIVE plants a balanced feeding after blooming season.

TO STAKE long spindly growth.

TO PROTECT foliage from the hot summer sun. Maintain plants in filtered sunlight.

FERNS

San Diego Fern Society

NOW IS THE TIME

TO REMOVE dead fronds.

TO PLANT spores.

TO USE a high-nitrogen fertilizer liquid or pellets twice a month.

TO SPRAY for aphids and scale if necessary.

TO WATER thoroughly; maintain humidity by watering surrounding areas.

FRUIT TREES AND VINES

Vincent Lazaneo, Hort. Advisor, UC Coop Extension

NOW IS THE TIME

TO IRRIGATE thoroughly as needed to maintain adequate soil moisture. Apply water around mature trees in a broad band beginning ⅓ of the distance from the trunk to the tree's drip line and extending out beyond the drip line a few feet. Apply enough water to wet the soil at least 2 feet deep (about 3 inches of water on a loam soil).

TO REMOVE grass and weeds from soil under a tree's canopy.

TO APPLY a layer of organic mulch on the soil under trees to conserve moisture. Keep mulch at least one foot away from the trunk to protect trees from crown rot. Complete thinning apples, pears and stone fruit after "June drop."

TO REMOVE any suckers growing from rootstock.

TO WASH trees periodically with a forceful spray of water to remove dust, honeydew and pests like aphids, whiteflies and spider mites.

TO SPRAY walnuts with carbaryl (Sevin) when nuts are about the size of a nickel and again three weeks later to control coddling moth larvae (wormy nuts).

FUCHSIAS

William Selby

NOW IS THE TIME

TO PINCH plants for shape and bushy growth.

TO CHANGE to 5-10-10 fertilizer to hasten maturity.

TO WATCH for insects and pests. Spray or use a systemic eradicator; use amount recommended by manufacturer or less, do *NOT* use an oil spray.

TO BE SURE to water an hour or more prior to application of an insecticide.

TO CONTROL snails, use metaldehyde or other bait according to directions.

TO KEEP plants clean of debris and spent blooms.

TO TURN baskets regularly so they do not become one-sided.

TO WATCH plants on hot or windy days. Do *NOT* allow them to dry out; keep damp but *NOT* WET.

GERANIUMS (Pelargoniums)

Carol Roller

NOW IS THE TIME

TO WATER thoroughly when plants become somewhat dry. Allow the excess water to drain away. Keep foliage as dry as possible. Provide the best possible drainage for the plants, both in containers and the landscape. Watch for botrytis (gray mold) and treat it immediately.

TO CONTINUE feeding with a balanced fertilizer containing micronutrients. Dissolve in water, using less than the recommended strength. Use often enough to keep plants growing well. Long term pellets may be used instead.

TO CONTINUE pest control and disease prevention, using all products according to the manufacturer's directions.

TO SELECTIVELY prune and pinch ivies and zonals for future bloom. Avoid cutting regals and scenteds because this is their flowering season.

TO MAKE cuttings from the ivy and zonal prunings, if desired.

TO REMOVE faded flowers and old, discolored leaves.

TO ROTATE pots on a regular basis in order to produce well-shaped plants.

TO ENJOY your plants at the height of their season.

HERBS

John Noble

NOW IS THE TIME

TO ENJOY an early morning walk through your garden. Touch, smell and taste your way.

TO CLEAN out the cool weather herbs as they fade—calendula, oxalis, chickweed, nasturtium...

TO PRUNE back spring flowering vines—pink jasmine, honeysuckle, native periwinkle...after they have flowered, of course.

TO SPRAY over your garden with a forceful hose to keep leaves free of dust and insects.

TO PLAN and plant your summer herb garden. Keep the water needs of your plants in mind.

TO PLANT basil, evening primrose, chamomile, cayenne pepper from seeds or starts.

TO INFUSE a cup of tea with a bouquet of fresh leaves and flowers. Follow a recipe or formula, or follow instinct and experiment!

IRIS

San Diego/Imperial County Iris Society

NOW IS THE TIME

TO ALLOW cut surfaces of the rhizomes to dry and be exposed to sunlight before planting or give a light dusting of soil sulfur. May be placed in vitamin B solution for awhile before planting.

TO HAVE beds prepared for planting and transplanting. Work in humus, soil sulfur, and some decomposed manure.

TO WATCH for aphids. May use a systemic insecticide.

TO FEED spurias with a low-nitrogen fertilizer.

TO KEEP watering all iris that are still blooming.

TO FEED Siberians after blooming with a balanced fertilizer to assure bloom for next year.

TO FEED Louisianas with a balanced food, but wait until June to dig and transplant.

TO FEED Japanese iris with camellia food; add to water in which they are growing.

NATIVES

Jeanine De Hart

NOW IS THE TIME

TO TAPER off watering the natives as we get into the warmer weather and longer days.

TO CONTINUE monitoring for insect pests. If you are not using insecticides, the natural enemies of the pests will do the job.

TO GET rid of ants on Ceanothus so the mealybug destroyers can do their work.

TO BE vigilant in your weed control. Soon it won't be necessary as it gets drier, weeds will cease to grow. That is, unless you are watering!

TO AVOID watering during the heat of the day. Natives are particularly sensitive to the effect of the suns rays on the water droplets and will burn readily.

ORCHIDS

Charles Fouquette

NOW IS THE TIME

TO OBSERVE the weather—be prepared to shadeareas of heavy sunlight, use shade cloth or liquid shading compound on glass or overhead.

TO MAINTAIN pest control against red spider, mealy bugs, and scale; consider getting some ladybugs or praying mantis egg cases—available at some orchid nurseries in the area.

TO AVOID sudden temperature changes or drafts around plants. Spray and mist on hot dry days; mist

seedlings and small plants—mist in the morning and afternoon, plants should be dry by nightfall.

TO REMEMBER that plants need good air circulation and proper light.

Culture of Different Genera:

Cymbidium: Light to partial shade to full sun, protect flowers from sunburn. Temperature 50°–70°optimum. Humidity 40–70%. Potting media; epiphyte-tree fern, fir bark, non-organic mixes or osmunda. New fertilizers have been developed and should be available.

Cattleya, Laelia, Brassavola **and Hybrid:** Light 2400–3600 foot candles. Temperature 69°–70° optimum. Media for potting: fir bark, tree fern, osmunda, gravel, perlite or charcoal. Fertilizer depends on type of media used to grow your plants.

Phalaenopsis and Hybrid: Light 900–1000 foot candles. Shade to adjust and meet requirements. Temperature 65°–85°, humidity 50–75%; remember the higher the temperature, the more circulation of air is required.

Vanda, Vandopsis, Ascocentrum, Aerides **and Hybrid:** Light 2000-3600 foot candles. Temperature 60°-70° humidity 49-75%. Potting media: tree fern, fir bark, charcoal, lava rock, or a combination of these. Fertilizer depends on media used. Vandas are voracious feeders and growers when right combination is used.

ROSES

Marianne Truby

NOW IS THE TIME

TO ENCOURAGE summer roses by "dead heading," the prompt removal of flowers as soon as they begin to fade. To direct the rose to produce more flowers instead of seeds (hips).

TO CUT blooms at their peak and SHARE with friends and neighbors.

TO PROTECT the new basals that were beginning to grow during the early bloom. Avoid letting these grow into a large candelabra. Remove side buds, allowing one bloom and then cut back to an eye emanating from a high five-leaflet.

TO ENJOY this second bloom in your garden.

TO CONTINUE to maintain a well-balanced feeding program and keep ahead of the mites and mildew by washing off your bushes in early morning.

TO MAINTAIN a vigilant watch for rust on the undersides of your foliage! It is imperative that you maintain a clean area around bushs to control rust. It spreads quickly and removing infected materials and keeping other herbaceous away from your roses will best minimize the threat.

TO TAKE every opportunity to observe new varieties in your neighborhood and in public gardens, the most reliable source for evaluating future purchases.

VEGETABLES

Vincent Lazaneo, Hort. Advisor, UC Coop Extension

NOW IS THE TIME

TO PLANT warm-season crops which require warm weather and soil for rapid growth: beans, corn, cucurbits (cucumber, gourd, luffa, melons, and squash), peanuts, peppers, sunflower, tomatoes and tender herbs.

TO PLANT pumpkins in late June for Halloween. Stop watering onions and garlic grown for bulbs when leaves begin to turn yellow. Dig bulbs when tops have fallen over and place in a shady, well-ventilated area to cure.

TO APPLY nitrogen fertilizer to warm-season crops to promote growth. Fertilize when: corn is 6 inches tall and 24 inches tall; cucurbits when plants begin to produce runners; eggplant, peppers and tomatoes when plants begin to bloom and again a month later; beans for a month after planting or when runners start to climb. For every 10 feet of row, apply ⅓–½ cup of ammonium sulfate or ¼–⅓ cup of ammonium nitrate alongside the row a few inches from the plants, then irrigate thoroughly.

TO CHECK plants for pests. Dust tomatoes lightly with sulfur when plants are a foot tall to control russet mites (older leaves die prematurely). Apply sulfur with a dust blower when wind is calm. Wrap paper collars around the stems of tomato transplants when planted to protect them from cutworms.

VEGETABLES, ANNUALS

from UC Cooperative Extension Publications

NOW IS ONE OF THE BETTER TIMES IN FROST-FREE AREAS

TO PUT IN TRANSPLANTS OF: eggplant, sweet potato, tomato — African daisy (*Arctotis stoechadifolia),* celosia, centaurea, coreopsis, marigolds, nicotiana, petunia, salpiglossis, salvia, scabiosa, sunflower, and tithonia.

TO PUT IN SEEDS OF: beans, corn, cucumbers, endive, leaf lettuce, melons, okra, onions (green), parsley, parsnips (in May), peppers, radish, squash (winter and summer), turnips — ageratum, amaranthus, balsum, coleus, cosmos, dahlias, four o'clocks, mignonette, morning glories, nasturtiums, portulaca, strawflowers, sweet alyssum, Virginia stock (*Malcomia maritima*), and zinnias. □

Gleanings . . .

TOMATO NEWS . . .
A new mulch has been developed that claims to help tomato plants produce bigger tomatoes sooner. It's red colored sheeting. In tests of three beds—red sheeting on one, black plastic mulch on one, nothing on one—with the same soil mixture, same tomato, same care, the harvest was best from the red covered bed followed by the uncovered bed. The tomatoes were larger, too. To determine if it worked on other plants, peppers were planted in each of the beds. No difference in them.

Apparently some plants respond well to certain wavelengths of light. Not only does the red mulch warm up the soil but it reflects red light up into the plants. Tomatoes like red. The season for production was extended, too. This sheeting is reusable and is available at garden supply stores.

NEW PLANTS . . .
There are still plant explorers traveling to distant places looking for new plants. Apparently a "new" plant that is closely related to an extinct species has been found in Australia. It is called *Wollemia nobilis* and it resembles an elongated tree fern. Its closest relative is the monkey puzzle tree, *Araucaria araucana*. This new plant does grow readily from seed. It should grow here, and it's an attractive plant. Wonder how long before it's available?

Plant breeders are always trying to develop new colors. We have had the yellow and pink versions of our old standby plant Calla *(Zantedeschia aethiopica)*. They grow like weeds in our gardens. It's often called calla lily and the British call it an arum lily. The newest hybrids have colors in shades of red, pink, purple, apricot, gold, yellow, and cream. Some have black throats. The foliage may be plain green, spotted or speckled with white or silver. These will make interesting houseplants.

There is a new azalea, too. Its advantage is that it has a longer blooming season. It is a patented azalea and comes in six colors. It is advertised to bloom from spring through fall. It will be interesting to see how it does in our area.

ROOTS . . .
We don't usually see them, but without the roots most plants would not survive. When the soil is dug it is full of tiny fibrous roots. Experts tell us that a sunflower sends our 1,448 feet of roots in a 16 foot square. Although the root system is large, most of the absorption of nutrients and water take place in a narrow zone behind the root tips. This is why it is important to be careful when transplanting. Drying out can set the plant back—that is why the instructions always recommend watering after transplanting.

Root tips have a very sensitive gravity detection ability that guides them down. That is why the root heads toward the bottom of a flower pot. When they reach the bottom there is nowhere to go but round and round. One must be careful when transplanting a root bound plant not to damage the root tips.

Roots also look for water. The deepest recorded roots, which can go down 175 feet, are on the desert mesquite. Most of the roots are in the top two feet of the soil, but large trees need a deeper system. This is why experts recommend that trees not be planted in lawns (that need a lot of shallow watering). To be sure that a tree gets enough water, dig a shallow pool around the trunk that can be filled with water to filter slowly deep into the soil around the roots. A tree needs deep roots to keep it upright. A strong wind or a combination of heavy rain and a wind can really topple a tree that does not have a good, deep root system.

KATE'S PLANTS . . .
In the plant walk in the April-May *California Garden* one of the most impressive plants in the park was left out. Sorry. Kate Sessions popularized the evergreen pear, *Pyrus kawakamii*. These are the trees planted all around the plaza in front of the Art Museum. This was one of her favorite trees and she had two of them planted in front of her house.

Upon reading her articles in *California Garden* one will discover that she recommends many plants that are unknown here today. Most of her research on plants that do well in San Diego was done before we had imported water, so she recommended plants that are drought resistant. We are beginning to have water shortage problems as our population grows and it will only become worse. Maybe it is time we take her advice and start growing some of these drought-tolerant and low water use plants. If you want to know what they are like, look them up in a plant encyclopedia (a big one).

ANOTHER WAY TO LOOK AT EL NIÑO

by MORT BRIGADIER

WHAT IS THERE THAT has not already been said about El Niño! We were always aware of the power of the ocean waves, but El Niño brought a renewed awareness of the ruthless power of rain. They say that El Niño brought over six inches of rain to Lindbergh Field, but it brought over ten inches to my home in Spring Valley. An inch of rain is not just a liquid measurement. An inch of rain (or a fraction of an inch of rain) is a "per square foot" measurement. It is the amount of rain that falls on every square foot of surface that it rained on.

Irrigation water and Evapotranspiration (ET) are also measured in inches per square foot. The water lost to ET, less the amount of rainfall (if any), equals the amount of water that must be replaced for a plant to grow. El Niño is special. During days of El Niño, subtracting rainfall from ET becomes a negative number and no irrigation is needed. But after El Niño goes away, comparing the water lost to ounces of water that must be replaced by rainfall or irrigation may be important to the health of our plants.

When it rains in San Diego, it seldom rains more than a tenth of an inch and usually not more than a few hundredths of an inch at a time. The rain either runs off, evaporates when the sun shines through, or rapidly disappears into the soil to nurture our plants. The only lasting effect is that we may not have to irrigate that day or that week.

Try to visualize an inch of rain. It is the amount of water that will fill a 12″ by 12″ pan or watertight box to a depth of 1″. It rounds off to 80 ounces, or .625 gallons (easy numbers to work with). Now when I read "1″ of rain," I automatically think of "80 ounces of water." But the amount of rain dropped by El Niño in February, 50 pounds of water per square foot of land area, was almost too much to comprehend! The weight of this water, were it to all descend at one time, would be enough to crush the hardiest plant! Even spread over a twenty-eight day period, it was enough to cause landslides.

The daily weather page shows the amount of rain per day, per month, and per season that falls on Lindbergh Field. It also shows the rainfall in twenty-nine other areas of the county, most of which receive a lot more rain than Lindbergh Field. It also shows daily rainfall, if any, in several locations in Baja California. Readers may find it of interest to use the following chart together with the weather page to convert the fractions of an inch of rainfall to ounces or gallons of water. Column C was added in anticipation of El Niño having gone away, and San Diegans again having to irrigate. Column C converts the daily Evapotranspiration rate into 8-ounce cups of water for those home gardeners who prefer to hand water their gardens.

A RAIN per sq. ft. or ET per sq.ft.	B OUNCES per sq. ft.	C CUPS OF WATER to irrigate by hand
.01 inch	0.8 ounces	-
.02 in.	1.6 oz.	-
.03 in.	2.4 oz.	¼ cup (-)
.05 in.	4.0 oz.	½ cup
.10 in.	8.0 oz.	1 cup
.15 in.	12.0 oz.	1½ cups
.20 in.	16.0 oz.	2 cups
.25 in.	20.0 oz.	2½ cups
.30 in.	24.0 oz.	-
.40 in.	32.0 oz.	-
.50 in.	40.0 oz.	-
.60 in.	48.0 oz.	-
.75 in.	60.0 oz.	-
.80 in.	64.0 oz.	-
.90 in.	72.0 oz.	-
1.00 in.	80.0 oz.	-

NOTE that a tenth of an inch of rain is the same as:

a. 900 gallons of water, raining on an average ⅓-acre lot.
b. 2700 gallons of water, weighing 22,500 pounds, falling on each acre.
c. 5.35 acre feet of water raining over each square mile.
d. 30 million tons of water falling on San Diego County.
e. 22,260 acre feet of water falling on San Diego County.
f. 7,250,000,000 gallons of water falling on San Diego County.
g. A year supply of water for 90,000 people if only we could capture and store it.

MULTIPLY BY 70 for the full effect of El Niño in February!

Mort Brigadier majored in horticulture at Cuyamaca

College and has an MBA in management. He is a UCCE Master Gardener.

CALCULATIONS BASED ON:

a. 325,851 gallons make an acre foot of water.
b. 1,000,000 gallons of water = 3.07 acre feet.
c. An acre foot of water supports a family of four for a year.
d. A gallon of water weighs 8.35 pounds.
e. 240 gallons of water = 1 ton.
f. One inch of rain rounds off to 80 ounces per square foot, or 0.625 gallons per square foot.
g. 640 acres make a square mile.
h. San Diego County is estimated at 4200 square miles.
i. San Diego County is estimated at 2,250,000 acres.
j. El Niño brought 6.37 inches of rain to Lindbergh Field in February 1998.

GROWING TOMATOES IN CONTAINERS

There is good news for home gardeners. Growers are marketing a variety pack with six different kinds of tomato plants in one six-pack. I found a six-pack with 'Better Boy', 'Early Girl', 'Beefmaster', 'Cherry Red', 'Celebrity', and 'Roma.' With many commercial growers unable to plant because of El Niño, tomatoes are going to be not only scarce, but expensive. Nineteen ninety-eight might be the Year of the Home Gardener, but you don't need a backyard to grow tomatoes! Although the root system of tomato plants may extend several feet into the soil, and spread over a rather large area, tomatoes can be grown in a half-barrel or in a fifteen gallon clay pot. Potted and staked tomatoes do very nicely on patios, and even on balconies (provided that you protect them from radiating heat on hot summer days). I've even grown cherry tomatoes, such as 'Sweet 100' in five gallon plastic pots. Tomatoes are easy and fun to grow, but will need more frequent watering when raised in containers. There is nothing to compare with the satisfaction of seeing a cherry tomato starting to flower, or popping a freshly picked home-grown tomato into your mouth. And, you just can't beat the price!

Mort Brigadier

("The 'Everlasting Story, continued from page 72)

Echinacea pupurea seed heads (purple coneflower)
Gomphrena haageana (globe amaranth)
Lavandula (lavender)
Nigella damascena
Rudbeckia 'Green Wizard'

DRYING TIPS

1. When harvesting flowers for drying, experiment with picking them at various stages of their blooming cycle. Some perform better when picked early; others need to be in full bloom before being cut and dried.
2. It's best to cut flowers for drying when they are perky and dry. Do not cut them on a foggy morning; when heat has caused wilting; or after a rain or overhead watering.
3. Once the hung flowers have dried, remove them and use immediately or store them in a dark, dry environment, such as a shoe box. Overdrying will cause them to disintegrate.
4. Be sure to pick healthy speimens, not snail-eaten, aphid-infested, or otherwise distorted blooms.
5. Dry more than you think you'll need in order to assure that you'll have enough.

   Be imaginative and inventive. Experiment with various plants from your garden. Try whatever you think might dry. The worst that can happen is that it doesn't work!

   Good luck and happy gardening . . .

Catherine L. Zinsky gardens at about 1,900 feet in Crest. She is a free-lance writer for garden and canine publications.

Catherine will have an Open Garden on May 9th and 10th, Saturday 9:00AM to 4:00PM, Sunday 9:00AM to 3:00PM at 309 Estornino Lane, El Cajon, 619/447-4668. Private showings can be arranged through June.

Antonelli Brothers
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COMMUNITY GARDENING IN SAN DIEGO

by MARILYN CORNELL

COMMUNITY GARDENING IS ALIVE and well in San Diego. The idea of shared gardening space is an outgrowth of the "Victory Gardens" of World War II, and has steadily grown in popularity in recent years.

The first community garden in San Diego County was "Project Wheel," which started in 1974. In late 1974, a $500 grant started the second community garden in the Encanto area for 4-H families. By 1978, seven hundred families and almost two thousand school children were involved in producing food at twenty-three community gardens and twelve school sites. There are currently eighteen community gardens operating in the City and County of San Diego.

Community gardening brings people together. One such example is the Juniper-Front Community Garden located between Hillcrest and downtown San Diego at 2260 Front Street. Founded in 1981 by Ethel Baron and sponsored by the Senior Citizen's Center, the garden has flourished for seventeen years. The garden is twenty thousand square feet, large enough to hold thirty-seven plots for individual gardeners. The land is leased from the San Diego Unified Port District. Individual gardeners pay semi-annual dues of $30 to cover water, maintenance fees, and insurance.

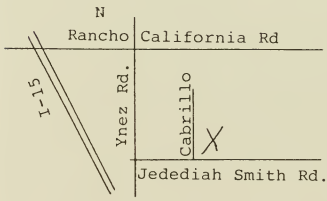
Juniper-Front Community Garden members range in age from early twenties to over ninety! They originate from various parts of the US, Brazil, Cuba, Greece, Mexico, and Italy. Many of the thirty-seven gardeners would describe themselves as "organic gardeners." Their prize crops include asparagus, tomatoes, corn, peppers, artichokes, broccoli, okra, leeks, cabbage, kale, squash, herbs, and exotic fruits and vegetables. In addition, members also indulge their love of cut flowers, giant sunflowers, roses, and California native plants and grasses.

Garden members meet monthly to exchange gardening tips and seeds, to share their bountiful harvests, to air opinions, and organize work parties for the upkeep of the communal areas of the garden. As responsible gardeners, we recycle and compost our organic garden material.

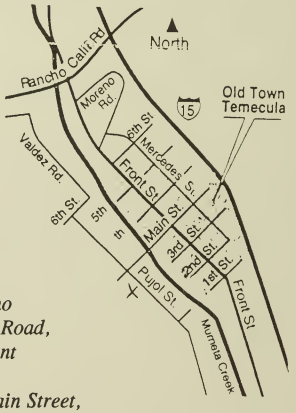
The garden is a haven for all who enter. More than a place to grow flowers, fruits and vegetables, the garden is good for the soul. The harvest may enrich our table, but the community of gardeners nourishes our spirit. To share in our bounty, stroll by the garden some weekend day this spring and ask for a tour! □

Marilyn Cornell is the current President of the Juniper-Front Community Garden. A licensed Marriage and Family Therapist when she is unable to garden, her plot at the community garden keeps her sane. For further information about the Juniper-Front Community Garden, please call (619) 298-2980.

("Temecula's Treasures" continued from page 76)



Rose Haven
Exit I-15 on Rancho California Road,
Go West of Ynez Road,
Go South 4 miles on Ynez Road,
East on Jedediah Smith Road,
Garden is on the corner of Cabrillo Avenue and Jedediah Smith Road



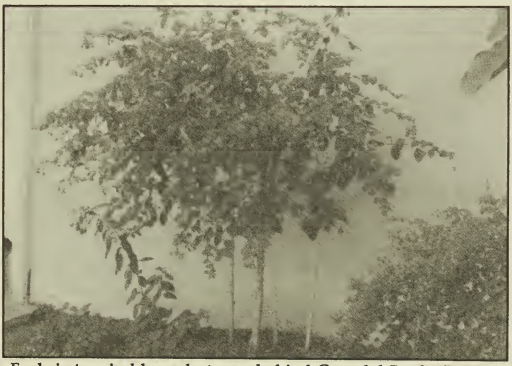
Community Garden
Exit I-15 Rancho California Road,
Go West to Front Street,
Go South to Main Street,
Go West to Pujol Street,
Garden is at 28816 Pujol Street.

TRAINING UPRIGHT FUCHSIAS

by ANNABELLE STUBBS

SOME GREAT POSSIBILITIES OF fuchsias are often overlooked because of the tremendous popularity of the large double basket type. These are certainly worth cultivating and training, but there are also the much less demanding uprights, which can be trained in a comparatively short time with not as much effort.

A fuchsia planted in a large pot and supported on a fan trellis from four to six feet tall can easily become the center of interest for the entire patio or garden. Some smaller blooming singles are often very fast growing and bloom prolifically for a long period. Many of these will take full sun along the coast, but need dappled-shade inland. By growing a plant in this way it may be in the spotlight when it is at its peak and moved to a less prominent position when it has been pruned. There are many double flowered bush types that will grow very well this way, also. The trellis supports the branches that otherwise may become loaded with blooms and break or bend out of shape.



Fuchsia tree in bloom last year behind Casa del Prado (Junior) Theatre, Balboa Park. Plant on right is now becoming a tree.

The method is very simple. Partially fill a large tub or five gallon can with your potting mix. Choose one or two gallon size plants that are growing actively. The plants should be well branched with three or four main branches low on the plant. Place your plant or plants in the mix so that there are about 2½ inches between the soil level of the plant and the top of the pot. This space is important for your watering. Fill in around the plant or plants so they are setting firmly in the new mix. Insert the trellis behind the plants. Be sure to push the trellis down to the bottom of the container. Then take your leaders (branches) and distribute them evenly on the trellis and tie in place. Water the plant carefully and thoroughly. Continue to tie up the branches as they grow. When the leaders reach the top of the trellis pinch out the growing tips. Keep the tips of the lateral branches pinched, also. Feed and spray regularly, and in a remarkably short time you will have a blooming specimen of which to be proud.

Another very fast growing specimen is an upright tree. Fuchsia trees, or Standards are usually made with trailing types. The framework is developed the first year and it is completed the second year, or it is grown with a wire support. With a suitable fast-growing, upright species the framework is not necessary, as the wood is strong enough to hold the branches erect. A young plant should be selected with one strong leader. Remove other stems. This is potted into its permanent size container. Then insert a strong stake approximately six inches shorter than you wish the height of your tree to be. Tie the plant to this stake and continue tying about every foot. Remove all branches that form along the trunk, but not the leaves. When the plant is near the top of the stake, do not remove the last three or four sets of branches. When it reaches the top, pinch out the growing tip. Now pinch the tips of the branches as they grow, to develop the top of your tree. This method works very well with the varieties 'Erecta Novelty', 'Gypsy Queen', 'Eternal Flame' and 'Nancy Lou'.

A lovely specimen can be made by using a small erect growing fuchsia as a tree. Stop the plant by pinching at two or three feet and allow it to branch from the top three or four sets of leaves. A small growing bush that is carefully shaped and pinched will then produce a beautiful little tree. This size can be kept for several years in a 2½ gallon pot. It then should be moved to a larger pot or be root pruned if you wish to keep it in the smaller pot. Varieties suggested for this treatment are 'Little Beauty', and 'Alice Hoffman'. Be sure to stake these small trees, also, as they are less likely to break when staked and securely tied.

Right now, tip pinching, watering, spraying, and fertilizing should be on a regular schedule to bring your plants into Show condition. □

This article is reprinted from the July-August 1971 issue of California Garden.

Book Reviews

SOME BRANCH AGAINST THE SKY: The Practice and Principles of Marginal Gardening
Geoffrey Dutton

Portland, Timber Press, 1997, 191 pages, 10 b&w illustrations, 6¼" x 9½", hardcover, $29.95

Dutton's domain is nine acres in the Scottish Highlands, a triangular property with a mixture of ridge, dell, and gorge. Here, for the past forty years, he has transformed an overgrazed hillside, covered with not much more than stones and fallen trees, into a rich wilderness of evergreens, ferns, heathers, and wild flowers. Although seven very lovely black and white photographs illustrate this book, it is the author's droll affection for every aspect of his "marginal garden" that makes for such pleasurable reading.

The man is obviously an adventurer who loves challenges. A molecular biologist who climbs and does white-water swimming and writes poetry, his mission has been to shelter and enhance his own "bit of earth" with a sustainable plant community. Imagination and enthusiasm come through as he takes the reader on "a walk round" his garden. He provides a simple plot plan as an effective guide, indicating thirty-six landmarks, many of which carry such romantic Celtic names as Coille Mhor (big wood) or Aonach (flat tableland). As we accompany him up the path to the waterfall, or across a flowery turf to a rocky glade devoted to blue poppies, ferns, and rhododendrons, we catch his excitement and sense of expectancy for what lies ahead.

The main part of the book is devoted to seasonal experiences of gardening in a climate of horrific snows and winds and wildlife that seeks to sustain itself through the winter at his garden's expense. "Too many teeth and not enough trees" is Dutton's cry, but with the help of his cats, he gets through and soon it is spring, then summer, and fall, when his garden is more rewarding, and demanding.

Dutton regards all of his work as experimental, seeking to plant that which will survive the elements while sheltering or otherwise harmonizing with its neighbors. Appendix I lists General Principles, a "how-to" of developing a marginal garden. Appendix II includes a list of trees and shrubs for shelter, plants for marginal propagation, divided by natural seeding, layering or mass-produced cuttings.

There are hints at the beginning of the book that the difference between a wild garden and a marginal garden needs to be defined. The author doesn't return to this issue until after he has described his own marginal garden in detail. Then he explains that natives and other plants can be installed in salubrious places, where they thrive on their own as a "wild garden," but it takes a gardener to provide the time and effort to develop the existing environmental condition into a garden. Emphasizing the significance of the gardener to the garden, he suggests that any garden, no matter how marginal, ultimately defines the gardener who has nurtured it.

Reviewed by Marge Howard-Jones

GARDENING WITH CLIMBERS
Christopher Grey-Wilson and Victoria Matthews

Portland, Timber Press, 1997, 160 pages, 160 color photos, 10 b&w drawings, 9¼" x 10⅝", hardcover, $27.95

This title will capture the interest of those home owners looking for a solution to various types of fencing and walls. Having the need to replace an existing solid fence and noting the frequency of graffiti everywhere I have become greatly aware of how beneficial our climbing plants such as bougainvillea, wisteria, and climbing rose bushes fulfill the need to restrict this deplorable "art" in today's world. Public buildings and roadside structures are all replacing bare walls and fences with plant materials designed to discourage other uses.

This book will provide you with wonderful ideas for plant materials to solve this unfortunate problem and provide us with living plant material to improve air quality as well. The book includes suggestions for selecting climbing plants for every purpose and gives guidelines for pruning, training and support. It is illustrated with beautiful color photos. Its alphabetical listings are up-to-date and easy to use. Included are evergreen tropical and subtropical climbers some of which can be used in Southern California to provide a tropical feel to a small enclosed area. Walls and buildings become scenes of beauty when used as a background for blooming climbers, less attractive structures disappear when hidden by a scented honeysuckle or rose.

Reviewed by Marianne D. Truby

THE PLANT SELECTOR: Over 1500 Garden Plants to Help You Pick Winning Combinations
Brian Davis

Ward Lock, Distributed by Sterling Publishing Company, Inc., 1998, 240 pages, 450 color photos, 6¼" x 9¼", hardcover, $27.95

This book compiled by a qualified English plantsman contains 450 color photographs designed to be an aid in identification. The pictures usually contain unusual aspects of the plant. For those of us that frequently observe plant materials that are not labeled this could be a valuable tool. Two hundred pages of the two hundred and forty page book contain alphabetical half-page descriptions of plant materials with descriptions of various aspects of culture, growing habits, etc. The use of symbols and abbreviations as explained in his "How to Use This Book" opening I found a handicap rather than a help. The A-Z directory is broken down into various categories such as trees, shrubs, climbers, bulbs, etc — all alphabetical within each category. Maintenance of course is based upon that

experienced in England and will require adjustments to be used in the various microclimates of the Southern California region.

Reviewed by Marianne D. Truby

CREATING PRIVACY IN THE GARDEN

Chuck Crandall and
Barbara Crandall

New York, Rizzoli International Publ., Inc., 1997, 144 pages, 142 color photos, 10″ x 10¼″, hardcover, $29.95

Privacy means different things to each of us and there are many ways of achieving it. To quote the authors, " For many gardeners privacy denotes a sensual experience, a chance to enjoy a feast for eyes, ears, nose, and skin." Our passion for private gardens is as old as civilization itself dating from Pharaonic Egypt. Ramses III was a great influence in establishing ornamental gardening as a high art form in Egypt by providing funds to establish hundreds of temple gardens for worship and pleasure.

The authors tell us that there are three basics: structure, plant materials, and noise modifiers. They all work in harmony. The authors make their book a guide to discover the possibilities and potential in your own outdoor space, and how to reclaim it for your own personal paradise.

The beautiful photos were taken by the authors and represent creative endeavors of very talented garden designers. This book offers inspiration and problem-solving help for any gardener seeking to enjoy more privacy outdoors.

Reviewed by John Rojas, Jr.

GARDENING IN SMALL SPACES

Angela Kirby

Pavillion Books Limited, N. Pomfret, Vt., Distributed by Trafalgar Square Press, 1997, 160 pages, 75 color photos, 9¼″ x 9¼″, hardcover, $35

Less space means more plants in this handsomely illustrated book. Featuring many home gardens of the long narrow type so prevalent in the British Isles, it demonstrates how careful planning can create a private Eden hidden from the eyes of neighbors or passersby. Most of the gardens are completely surrounded by walls or fences, so that a sense of spaciousness is dependent on the careful selection of plant material and garden ornaments.

Much attention is given to the process of determining just what kind of garden is desired, whether a retreat, or a plant collection, or for entertaining, or for children's play. Color preferences are explored with many lists of flowers, shrubs, and trees in various possible hues. Suggested plot plans are combined with luscious color photos of private gardens, such as a rockery in Steeple Aston, Oxfordshire, crammed with flowering bulbs or the shaded retreat in Lord Snowden's London garden.

To Californian eyes used to wide open spaces, some of these gardens seem quite crowded if not a little claustrophobic. But the design aspects of the author's examples would have real value in planning an eyecatching entry, or condo garden where space is usually minimal. She is very fond of ornamentation that can be provided by colored tile or sculpture or interesting containers.

The text is written in an easy informative style, with many asides of a botanical or historical nature and lists of many categories of plants. As with other books that seemingly focus on one kind of garden, this contains a wealth of general information for any gardener.

Reviewed by Marge Howard-Jones

BACKYARD BOUQUETS: Growing Great Flowers for Simple Arrangements

Georgeanne Brennan

San Francisco, Chronicle Books, 1998, 144 pages, color throughout, 8¾″ x 9″, softcover, $18.95

Cutting flowers from one's own garden is a major reward for gardeners and this book describes exactly which plants, usually annuals, suit this purpose. Beginning with general planting and gardening information, it proceeds to an organization of blossoms by shapes and sizes useful for effective flower designs. Thus the first section on Discs and Domes includes everything needed to be known about sunflowers, zinnias, cosmos, coreopsis, and scabiosas. Airy fillers includes Queen Anne's lace, bachelor buttons, Nigella, and Cleome.

Handsome color photos of the flowers, on their own and in beautiful arrangements, could be enough to inspire anyone to dedicate all possible space in the garden to this purpose. Emphasizing that cutting flowers thrive easily in containers or window boxes, the author devotes much space to the value of interesting containers, both for the growing and arranging of flowers.

Reviewed by Marge Howard-Jones

JEFF COX'S 100 GREATEST GARDEN IDEAS: Tips, Techniques, and Projects for a Bountiful Garden and a Beautiful Backyard

Jeff Cox

Emmaus, Pa., Rodale Books, 1998, 256 pages, color throughout, 7½″ x 9⅛″, softcover, $15.95

After you've been a gardener for two or three decades most "garden tips" books are regarded with at least a slight feeling of *déjà vu*. But when someone with a great reputation like Jeff Cox puts together a compendium of his favorite tips and tricks, it can be well worth examining. Many of his ideas are reworking and improvements on old techniques such as mounding and pegging roses, using willow water for propagation, solarization, over cropping, and grafting. Others are concepts I've never seen before such as his "floppy top" deer and raccoon fence. He has refined some of the cut and come again methods and shows exactly how to coax two or three extra yields from a number of crops. As well as many vegetable gardening hints, the author also explains several basic design concepts such as borrowing your neighbor's landscape and color coordinating your house and your yard for a better effect. The tone of the book is like having a pleasant garden chat with an experienced and helpful mentor. The illustrations are excellent and simple to understand. I can hardly wait to try the author's method for planting leeks once and having "leeks forever." This book should be required reading for anyone new to gardening. More experienced gardeners will glean some excellent new techniques and solutions from Mr. Cox's creative approach to gardening.

Reviewed by Connie Beck

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3rd Fri - 1:00 pm, Escondido Joslyn Center

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4th Sat - 12:45 pm, Joslyn Sr Ctr, Escondido

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3rd Tue - 7:30 pm, Casa del Prado

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3rd Tue - 7:00 pm, Bonita Valley Baptist Church

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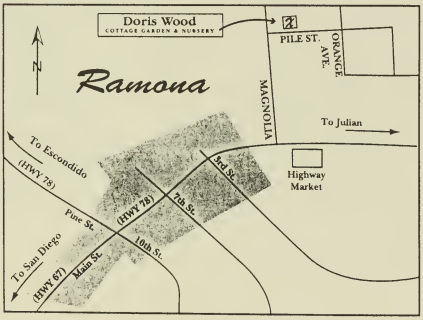

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TUESDAYS

June 16th:
- 11:00 Learning How to Care for Orchids
- 12:30 Recycle with Earthworms
- 2:00 Del Mar Floral Demo
- 3:30 How to Grow Epidendrums

June 23rd:
- 11:00 Learn to Grow Staghorn Ferns
- 12:30 Recycle with Earthworms
- 2:00 Xeriscape Council
- 3:30 Floral Design Demo

June 30th:
- 11:00 Recycle with Earthworms
- 12:30 Gardening Demonstration
- 2:00 Gardening Demonstration
- 3:30 Bill Tall, City Farmers Nursery

WEDNESDAYS

June 17th:
- 11:00 Learning to Grow Staghorn Ferns
- 12:30 City Farmers Nursery
- 2:00 Floral Design Trends
- 3:30 Learn How to Compost

June 24th:
- 11:00 Learn How to Compost
- 12:30, 2:00 and 3:30 Gardening Demos

July 1st:
- 11:00 Safe Bamboo for the Home Garden ABS, George Shor
- 12:30 Gardening Demononstration
- 2:00 Fragrant Flower Gardens
- 3:30 Topiary Demo - Samia Rose

THURSDAYS

June 18th:
- 11:00 Growing Roses in Pots, Phil Ash
- 12:30 Recycle with Earthworms
- 2:00 Creative Floral Design
- 3:30 Fruit Salad for S.D. County

June 25th:
- 12:30 Landscaping Questions, Native Designs
- 2:00 Creative Floral Design
- 3:30 Topiary Demo - Samia Rose

July 2nd:
- 11:00 Learn How to Compost
- 12:30 Wild Birds Unlimited, Don Everett
- 2:00 How to Grow Roses, Pete Philan
- 3:30 Tree Consultant, Cynthia Drake

FRIDAYS

June 19th:
- 12:30 Learn How to Compost
- 2:00 Gardening Demonstration
- 3:30 25 Years of Exciting Flowers - Weidner's

June 26th:
- 12:30, 2:00, 3:00 Learn How to Compost

July 3rd:
- 11:00 Learn How to Compost
- 12:30, 2:00 and 3:00 Gardening Demos

SATURDAYS

June 20th:
- 11:00 How to Grow Gorgeous Roses, the Grassos
- 12:30 Native and Naturalized Herbs
- 2:00 How to Plant Succulent Wreaths and Dish Gardens
- 3:30 How to Kill a Mini-Rose, or Not

June 27th:
- 11:00 How to Grow Gorgeous Roses, the Grassos
- 12:30 Bonsai Demo, S.D. Bonsai
- 2:00 Xeriscaping, SDC Xeriscape Council
- 3:30 RCP Block and Brick Demo

July 4th:
- 11:00 How to Grow Gorgeous Roses, the Grassos
- 12:30 Garden Pest Control, Cynthia Drake
- 2:0O How to Kill a Mini-Rose, Tiny Petals

SUNDAYS

June 21st:
- Professional Floral Competition
- 9:30 Designer's Choice
- 1:00 Surprise Package, Pt. 1
- 1:40 Surprise Package, Pt. 2
- 3:00 AWARDS PRESENTATION

June 28th:
- 11:00 Block and Brick
- 12:30 How to Plant Succulent Wreaths
- 2:00 Zoo's Who, J. Coughlin & Kids
- 3:00 How to Arrange Summer Sunflowers

July 5th:
- 12:00 Flower and Garden Show Awards
- 2:00 Zoo's Who, Audience Participation

MONDAYS

June 22nd:
- 11:00 How to Grow Staghorn Ferns
- 12:30 Recycle with Earthworms
- 2:00 Xeriscape Council
- 3:30 Floral Design Demo, Noel Totten

June 29th:
- 11:00 Recycle with Earthworms
- 12:30 and 2:00 Garden Demos
- 3:30 Basic Tree Care, Cynthia Drake

CALIFORNIA GARDEN (USPS 0084-020)
San Diego Floral Association, Inc.
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PERIODICALS POSTAGE

Edible, very sweet banana growing in San Diego; thought by owner to be a Musa acuminata (Musa nana), cultivar name unknown. Photograph by Linda Kadubec.